



15.03.2021

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NEWS IN SHORT

- India's 1st Centralized Air-Conditioned Railway Terminal in Bengaluru
- **NEWS** ②: 1st dedicated Express Cargo Terminal inaugurated in Bangalore
- NEWS 3: India is preparing to propose for a law to ban the cryptocurrencies
- United States- 2nd Biggest Oil Supplier to India
- **NEWS** (§): India's Foreign exchange reserves to become the world's fourth-largest

- NEWS ©: Advisory Committee for Multidisciplinary Study of the River Sarasvati
- NEWS 7: Artist Laxman Pai passed away
- NEWS ®: Kathakali performer and Kunhiraman Nari passed away
- NEWS 9: 63rd Grammy Awards, 2021 were organised in the Los Angeles
- NEWS (10): Bhavani Devi becomes 1st Indian Fencer to qualify for Olympics

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Centralized Air-Conditioned Railway Terminal

- 'Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal' India's 1st Centralized Air-Conditioned Railway Terminal in Bengaluru, Karnataka is set to become operational soon.
- It is being developed by the Indian Railways and named after one of India's Civil Engineer, Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya.

Express Cargo Terminal

India's 1st dedicated Express Cargo Terminal, exclusively for export and import of international was inaugurated Kempegowda in International Airport, Bangalore.

Proposal to ban cryptocurrency

- India is preparing to propose for a law to ban the cryptocurrencies, to fine anyone who is trading in India or to fine anyone even for holding such digital assets.
- The bill would be criminalising the possession, issuance, mining, trading and transferring of the crypto-assets.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

United States- 2nd Biggest Oil Supplier to India

- United States surpassed Saudi Arabia as India's 2nd Biggest Oil Supplier in February, 2021.
- Iraq continues to be India's Largest supplier despite a 23% decline.

Foreign exchange reserves

- India's Foreign exchange reserves to become the world's fourth-largest by surpassing Russia.
- As per International Monetary Fund table, China has the largest reserves, followed by Japan, Switzerland, India, and Russia.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

63rd Grammy Awards

- The 63rd Grammy Awards, 2021 were organised in the Los Angeles. It recognizes the achievements across the music industry.
- The Album by Taylor Swift called 'Folklore' was conferred for 'Album of the year'.
- Song of the year was awarded to "I Can't Breathe" by Dernst Emile II, H.E.R. and Tiara Thomas.

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APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Deepak Mishra

- Deepak Mishra, Practice Manager at the World Bank was appointed as the new Director and Chief Executive of the Indian Council for Research on **International Economic Relations**, the economic think Tank of India.
- He will take over as the Director and Chief Executive from Rajat Kathuria.

Advisory Committee for the River Sarasvati

- The Archaeological Survey of India released a notification stating that it has reconstituted an Advisory Committee for Multidisciplinary Study of the River Sarasvati.
- Head of the Committee will be Union Minister for **Culture Prahlad Singh Patel.**

BOOKS & AUTHORS

"Prince with a Paintbrush"

- An illustrated book for children titled "Prince with a Paintbrush: The Story of Raja Ravi Varma" written by **Shobha Tharoor Srinivasan** will be published in April.
- It aims to inspire young readers to learn about the famed artist.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

International Day of Mathematics

International Day of Mathematics (IDM) is annually observed across the globe on 14th March to celebrate the beauty and importance of mathematics, under the theme "Mathematics for a Better World".

International Day of Action for Rivers

- International Day of Action for Rivers is annually observed across the globe on 14th March to create awareness about the importance of rivers.
- The theme of International Day of Action for Rivers 2021 is "Rights of Rivers".

World Consumer Rights Day

- World Consumer Rights Day is annually celebrated across the globe on 15th March to highlight the power of consumers and their rights.
- The theme of World Consumer Rights Day 2021 is "Tackling Plastic Pollution".

Bhavani Devi becomes 1st Indian Fencer to qualify for **Olympics**

- Anandha Bhavani Devi became the 1st ever Indian Fencer to qualify for an Olympics.
- She was assured of qualification for the 2021 Tokyo Olympics after Hungary lost to South Korea in the Quarter-finals of Team event of 2021 Fencing Sabre World Cup being held at Hungary.

OBITUARY

Artist Laxman Pai passed away

- Padma Bhushan recipient and Goa's veteran artist **Laxman Pai** passed away at the age of 95 in Goa. He is well known for his contemporary paintings he is also the former principal of the Goa College of Art.
- He received the third highest civilian honour of **Padma** Bhushan award in 2018.

Kathakali performer and Kunhiraman Nari passed away

- Veteran Kathakali performer and Guru, Chemacheri Kunhiraman Nari passed away at the age of 105.
- He founded the Bharatiya Natyyakalayalam, the first school of dance in North Kerala in 1945. He was honoured with India's 4th highest civilian award Padma Shri in 2017.